HIST 620 Comparative Genocide in Europe (and elsewhere)
Class time: Wed. 4pm-6.40pm
Place: AL 566

Instructor: Professor Frieberg
Office hours: T Th 11-noon or by appointment
Office: AL 576

COURSE CONTENT AND SIX ANALYTICAL QUESTIONS:
This course interrogates the specific aspect of 19th and 20th century society and warfare that is genocide and ethnic cleansing. We begin by understanding the emergence of mass murder in modern history. Readings and class discussions will address the following analytical questions:
1. How do we define ethnic cleansing and genocide, and when is it justifiable to designate an event as genocide?
2. What is the connection between modernity, the rise of the nation-state, and genocide/ethnic cleansing?
3. What is the connection between Total War and genocide/ethnic cleansing?
4. How do transnational and comparative methodologies inform the study of genocide/ethnic cleansing or, on the other hand, problematize it?
5. What is the United States’ relationship to the history of genocide?
6. How do current politics, debates about intervention, and questions of justice inform the memory, history, and media treatment of genocides/ethnic cleansings?

Thus this course focuses on historiography and historical methods – particularly transnational history and comparison – while also exploring the role of interdisciplinary approaches in graduate work.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES
• You will enhance your ability to read and write historiographically.
• You will apply methods and theories such as comparison and transnationalism to specific case studies.
• You will consider strengths and weaknesses of comparison through the works analyzed.
• You will compare and contrast multiple perspectives on this highly political and politicized topic.
• You will research and write a final project that allows you to hone your ability to read and write historiography, integrate important scholarly debates into your M.A. thesis, or teach military and World History courses with attention to recent scholarship and sensitive topics.

COURSE FORMAT
We meet one time per week in a 2 hour 40 minute block. This course is a discussion seminar, meaning that the majority of our time will be spent discussing the weekly readings. Given this format, everyone is responsible for showing up to class having prepared the readings and willing to discuss them. Your responsibilities extend beyond reading the material and coming to class prepared with comments. They also include listening
to, respecting, and adding to your colleagues' comments and the ability to engage in a respectful debate. Knowledge on a graduate level is generated through respectful disagreement and interrogation of existing scholarship and opinions that furthers understanding of a particular topic. Needless to say, you need to attend class to be part of that process.

REQUIRED READINGS
Books:

Required articles:
- Philipp Ther. “Beyond the Nation: The Relational Basis of A Comparative History of Germany and Europe.” *Central European History* 36:1 (2003), 45-73. JSTOR.

Course Requirements/Grading:
- 1 book review - 20%
- 2 reading summaries 10%
• Leading discussion – 10%
• Participation – 20%
• Bibliography, thesis, outline – 5%
• Term paper – 35%

Your book review will be about 800 words long. It will follow field standard and can be written about one of the monographs, Bloodlands, Fires of Hatred or A Century of Genocide, or about one of the recommended readings for the weeks in question in the course. The review is due on the day when that book will be discussed in class.

You will write two reading summaries, dates and topics to be determined in the beginning of the semester, in which you sum up the readings for that class, including the recommended book, identify major themes, and give an oversight of the readings for the day.

You will also lead discussion once during the semester, again identifying themes and relevant questions, directing conversation, summing up conversations and moving the class analysis of reading materials forward. On your day to lead discussion, you will come prepared with 3-5 larger discussion questions that will also be pre-submitted to Blackboard and accessible to the entire class as reading guidance.

On April 13th, you will turn in a typed, detailed bibliography, outline, and thesis statement for your term historiography or primary source paper. The paper will cover a topic relevant to ethnic cleansing and genocide. I recommend if possible that the paper overlap with your own research interests or focus, if not in terms of topics, then geographically and time-wise.

The final paper, finally, is due on May 12th. I will give you the option to turn in an earlier draft for feedback. The paper should be 12-15 pages, cited correctly using Chicago Manual of Style-footnotes. It needs to be free from all grammatical errors, typos, and formatting mistakes. More importantly, it needs to show a strong grasp of the topic and literature you have chosen to cover, and it needs to be well organized and coherent.

POLICIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Attendance and Late Policy:
I will expect of you, as graduate students in your specialty, to always be in class and prepared. If absent, I will assume that you have a serious reason for your absence. Whether present or absent, you are responsible for all readings and all information given during class and for turning in your work on time. If you need an extension or will be absent for an extended time, likely to damage your participation grade, you should talk to me beforehand.

Plagiarism
Is never, under any circumstances, acceptable.
Computers
No problems as long as you are not watching porn, sports, Netflix or chatting during class. In fact, computers are acceptable for note-taking and e-reading materials only. You might want to use computers, ipads or kindles to bring your readings to class (you are always expected to bring ALL readings or your own extensive notes on them, to class).

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

   • Raphael Lemkin, “Genocide: A Modern Crime.”
   • The Genocide Studies Reader, 6-11.

2. Wed. Jan. 25: Definitions, Methodology and Analytical Questions
   • Naimark, “Introduction,” Fires of Hatred
   • The Genocide Studies Reader, 11-56.
   • Philipp Ther. “Beyond the Nation: The Relational Basis of A Comparative History of Germany and Europe.” Central European History 36:1 (2003), 45-73

3. Wed. Feb. 3: Modernity
   • Gellately and Kiernan, 29-116
   • Naimark, “The Armenians and Greeks of Anatolia.”
   • The Genocide Studies Reader, 60-62.


   • The Genocide Studies Reader, 63-70
   • Gellately and Kiernan, 117-188

   **Recommended:** Alex Alvarez. *Native America and the Question of Genocide.* New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2014

5. Wed. Feb. 15: Total War, Utopias and Nationalism
   • Gellately and Kiernan, 189-288

   • Snyder, 1-224 (through Chapter 6).

   **Recommended:**

7. Wed. March 2: The Holocaust
- Snyder, 225 (Chapter 7)-the end.
- Review by Bartov, Slavic Review

Recommended:

8. Wed. March 9: Comparative genocide?
- The Genocide Studies Reader, 231-286

- Ther and Siljak, Redrawing Nations
- Naimark, “Soviet Deportation of the Chechens-Ingush,” and “The Expulsion of Germans from Poland and Czechoslovakia.”

10. Wed. March 23: Yugoslavia and Gender in Genocide
- Naimark, “The Wars of Yugoslav Succession,”
- Gellately and Kiernan, 353-372.
- The Genocide Studies Reader, 180-194
- Herzog, “Introduction – War and Sexuality in Europe’s Twentieth Century” – Blackboard
- Iacobelli, “The Sum of Such Actions’: Investigating Mass Rape in Bosnia-Herzegovina through a Case Study of Foca” – Blackboard.

Recommended:
11. SPRING BREAK!

12. Wed. Apr. 6: Intervention and the International Community
   - *The Genocide Studies Reader*, 287-424
   - Gellately and Kiernan, 325-338

   **Recommended:**

   - Powers, “A Problem from Hell” – Blackboard.
   **Bibliography and outline due.**

   - *The Genocide Studies Reader*, 390-408
   - Gellately and Kiernan, 289-324, 339-352
   - Gellately and Kiernan, 373-380.

   **Recommended:**

15. Wed. Apr. 27
   Consultations concerning paper.

16. Wed. May 4
   Summing up

**Term paper is due on May 12 at 12:30pm in my office**